

Historic, archived document

Do not assume content reflects current scientific knowledge, policies, or practices.

62,11

Dup?

**NEW
OR
NOTEWORTHY
PLANTS
1924**

**D. M. ANDREWS
OWNER OF
ROCKMONT NURSERY
BOULDER, COLORADO**

Terms, Time of Delivery, etc. Early orders are requested. Delivery will be made as nearly as possible to any date to suit your convenience between early March and May 1st. Fall shipments begin in September and continue to about December 1st. Fall orders for alpine and other mountain plants should be received by August 15th to allow time for collecting. Seeds can be supplied at any time, but a second choice should be given with late orders.

Prices are on the basis of cash with order, regardless of financial rating or responsibility. I refund cash for items not furnished.

Prepaid Delivery and Safe Delivery. All the plants of this catalogue, except trees, evergreens and large shrubs (3 feet and over), will be delivered prepaid in the U. S., provided the order amounts to \$5.00 or more, to be sent to one address cash with order. Postage and packing 25 cents additional on orders less than \$5.00 if wanted by parcel post. When it is necessary to send part of the order by express I will include the entire order and add extras for the difference in transportation. No postage charge on seed orders.

I guarantee safe delivery by parcel post or express, except that I assume no responsibility for delays due to the operation of state or federal inspection laws, nor do I insure in any way the after-behavior of the stock. In supplying what I believe to be true to name and of sound quality, I take it for granted that the purchaser will require no additional warranty. Errors will be rectified if reported promptly.

New or Noteworthy Plants

In presenting my third edition of New or Noteworthy Plants, I acknowledge a profound sense of obligation to very many friends all through the land who have contributed materially to the success of my undertaking. The financial returns have been satisfactory. But more than that, I have been made to feel that the wave-length of my message has been correctly measured by all who respond to Nature and outdoor life.

Protection of Native Plants. I advocate and practice the principles of conservation as applied to native plant material. Equipped with very up-to-date facilities for propagation by seeds and cuttings, I produce a better grade of stock than could be obtained by collecting the wild material, with a possible exception in the case of alpenes and a few others mentioned elsewhere. In addition, I am establishing permanent colonies of various native shrubs and plants in my Rockmont Nursery to furnish a supply of seeds and cuttings for future propagation. My trips of exploration, which cover a wide territory, are for the purpose of discovering new material, a large collection of which is already established in the nursery awaiting the time when sufficient stock shall become available for distribution. This probation period is a safeguard against much of the risk ordinarily attending the introduction of plant novelties. Anything which fails to make good is suppressed. Again, there are always items which for various reasons will never become plentiful and can be offered only occasionally. The best insurance against disappointment is to place your order as promptly as possible.

Rockmont Nursery consists of fifteen acres of the most fertile land in Colorado, varying from a light sandy soil to a heavy black loam. An abundance of water for irrigation insures a consistent growth during the entire season. All the propagating frames, seed beds and lattice houses are under an overhead sprinkling system which gives perfect control of growing conditions. These facilities, together with a sunny climate, produce a wonderful root system and sturdy top development unsurpassed and seldom equalled.

Hardiness. The altitude of the nursery is one mile above sea level. Because of high altitude, the hardiness of stock grown is equivalent to that of a more northern latitude. The source of native plants indigenous to a high altitude determines an inherent hardiness and adaptability so characteristic of the Colorado Blue Spruce and other mountain plants.

An Extra Catalogue will be mailed if you care to pass one on to a friend. Every successful business must grow, and a conservative growth is desirable. My best introduction is by one friend to another.

When writing please address,

D. M. Andrews, P. O. Box 493, Boulder, Colorado

Culture of Alpines, Montanic and Desert Plants

Everyone who has acquired an intimate experience with plants begins to seek adventure along new lines. The culture of mountain plants and alpine affords a progressive exercise in the art of horticulture, leading to pleasant prospects of success and satisfaction.

The amateur should not be too hasty in trying the more difficult subjects, and no one should expect a large degree of success with alpine without studying their needs and giving them as congenial surroundings as possible.

It may be too much to expect all alpine to thrive permanently, depending of course upon the facilities and skill of the grower, but a single season's success with some of these exquisite gems from the snow lands should amply reward one's effort.

When gardening operations must be confined within a very limited area, I submit that alpine treatment offers what is possibly the most intensive method of development. As a guide to preparation and construction, consult the various books on alpine and rock gardening obtainable from the publishers of the various horticultural magazines. Then remember that discretion is the better part of economy as well as valor; that alpine have the happy disposition to do the best they can and their simple requirement is plain food diluted with the proper amount of water; that deep trenching with elaborate drainage is seldom necessary, and that rocks well placed form an appropriate setting but are not essential.

True alpine grow at high altitudes upon a soil mixture of broken rock grading down to crumbly earth with a liberal mingling of fibrous humus. During the growing season there are almost daily showers. Many of these plants form turfs filling spaces between the larger rock fragments, and are commonly on slopes where the drainage is quite perfect. The rock basis of the soil is granite with apparently a neutral reaction. For Colorado alpine lime may be added to the soil only to correct evident acidity; and for subalpine and montanic plants perhaps none at all. On the other hand, a British author states that 95% of alpine plants crave lime. I conclude that a neutral or slightly alkaline soil is best.

All but a few alpine grow in full sunlight, but when brought down to a lower altitude must be shifted around to the east or north side of a house or wall; or better, to the half shade of a lattice. Authorities do not agree upon the need or practicability of acclimatization. Some alpine yield readily enough to cultivation, but who will say this is acclimatization? Other alpine are utterly refractory, merely because their needs are not understood and some essential is omitted. The method I find most practical with alpine is to select specimens in their native habitat, dig them in small turfs and transfer them direct to the prepared soil. The reference to soil reminds me of the importance of careful preparation and that the very best is what you should ultimately aim at, and it is always easiest to do good work if you begin doing it from the very start. The planting must be done in the fall and they should then be

mulched with excelsior or evergreen boughs until spring. Alpine may be flowered in a cool greenhouse and the plants, if carefully matured, may be planted out the next spring where in some instances they will bloom a second time.

Subalpine grow around peaty bogs or along streams and require a rather plentiful supply of moisture during the growing period. Most of these will thrive in a moderately moist garden, rich in humus, if a little attention can be given to watering when necessary. Most subalpine when once established, are likely to thrive for many years.

Montanic Plants. A third group, which I shall call montanic, includes typically the Rocky Mountain Columbine and a number of others of very high ornamental rank. These are the plants of shaded or semishaded slopes of middle elevations. They are not difficult to grow when their requirements are understood. They need first, a friable soil rich in humus. Although good drainage is necessary, an ample supply of moisture should be insured during the full period of active growth. At other times, and particularly during winter, a surplus should be avoided. Their shade requirements are best provided for at the east side, or north side of a wall, or under a lattice house. A few of the native shrubs, as *Jamesia*, *Holodiscus*, *Pachistima*, etc., are best treated as montanic plants. In regions where the soil is known to be acid, as in portions of the Mississippi valley, a little lime should be added to the soil, as would be required for a field, crop of clover. A small amount in any case will do no harm.

Desert plants and dry rock plants include those from the drier zones of the mountains and foothills and the semiarid plains. Most of these inhabit a calcareous soil, and a small addition of lime is recommended. All require full sunlight and good drainage, suggesting a dry rockery or elevated bed. Characteristic of this group are the Cactus, Yucca, Sand Lily, Ipomoea and Mirabilis, the last two requiring a deep soil because of their deep-seated tuberous roots of large size. In this connection it may be said that the blue Salvias thrive best in a rather dry position, as too much moisture induces a rank growth, resulting in a weak lumpy stem. Try the Salvias in the driest, sunniest part of your garden and I am sure you will enjoy them as never before.

Moist rock plants have only a small place among the Colorado native species and for the most part are to be treated as alpine.

In the descriptive lists, reference will be made to these cultural groups as follows: Alpines (A); Subalpines (S); Montanic plants (M); Desert plants (D). Where no reference is given, ordinary garden treatment is to be understood.

The Culture of Perennials from Seed differs from annuals mainly in the length of time required. It is important therefore to provide for perennials a seed bed with soil of good mechanical texture, so that it will not pack or bake during the period of use. Lath shades or a thin mulch of excelsior or both is excellent protection during the germination period. Means for artificial watering should be available as young seedlings cannot endure much drought without severe loss. The seeds of a few species remain dormant over one season, so ample time should be given those which do not appear promptly. Many perennials germinate quickly, and some will bloom the first summer if sown early.

New or Noteworthy Trees and Shrubs

The shrubs of the mountain region embrace a delightful variety of types, are exceptionally hardy and have a remarkable range of utility. Most of them, although comparatively new in cultivation, have passed the experimental stage, having been tested at the Arnold Arboretum and by experimenters in various parts of the country.

Colorado Landscape Architects specify various of the mountain shrubs on their planting lists because they compare favorably in attractiveness and utility, and because of their rugged constitution.

Height in feet immediately following the name refers to ultimate growth and not to the size furnished. Only a few of the following shrubs require special care or treatment; such are indicated by letters in parenthesis which refer to culture notes on another page; (A) Alpine, (M) Montanic, etc. Trees and larger shrubs are not mailable and will be sent by express, charges collect.

Amorpha nana (microphylla). Dwarf-indigo. 1½ feet. A miniature shrub with pinnate aromatic foliage and minute leaflets of dark green. Each of the branchlets terminates in a slender spike of garnet-red flowers in July. Never becomes overgrown or unsightly, thrives in a dry position and is very appropriate for the rock-garden. Strong transplanted bushes 75 cents each, \$7.50 per dozen.

Ampelopsis saintpauli. Saint Paul Creeper. Of several varieties which cling to walls this is decidedly the best. The discs, by means of which it clings, are larger, more numerous and more adherent than in other types. It is a native of Oklahoma and ranges to southern Illinois. It differs farther in having the smallest leaves, the slenderest vine and shortest joints of the five-leaved ivies. A hardy,

rapid climber. Three-year plants 75 cents each, \$7.50 per dozen.

Celtis rugulosa. Hackberry, Paloblanco. A small tree of compact habit, elm-like foliage, tolerant of dry or bleak conditions. 4-6 feet, \$1.00 each, \$10.00 per dozen.

Cercocarpus montanus. Mountain-mahogany. 6 to 10 feet. A rosaceous shrub with wand-like branches and small dark green leaves. The small flowers are followed by feathery achenes in midsummer. A characteristic shrub of the dry foothill region. 2-3 feet, 75 cents, \$7.50 per dozen.

Clematis ligusticifolia. Western Virgin-bower. A leafy vine of vigorous growth, noteworthy for its voluminous seed plumes which are very effective in early autumn. Flowers white, early. 75 cents, \$7.50 per dozen.

Cornus stolonifera coloradensis. Colorado Dogwood. 4-6 feet. A compact bush of rounded form, the foliage pale beneath, assuming glorious autumn colors. The small white flowers are followed by the pearly white berries in an all-summer succession. The young twigs are dark blood-red in winter, deeper in color than the Siberian Dogwood. Worthy of extensive planting. 3-4 feet, 75 cents, \$7.50 per dozen.

Cornus stol. utahensis. Utah Dogwood. A variety differing from *coloradensis* mainly in its taller and more upright growth. 3-4 feet, 75 cents.

Corylus rostrata. Beaked Hazelnut. 5-6 feet. The rugose dark green foliage is attractive at all times, and its ability to thrive under all sorts of conditions justifies more extensive use. Strong clumps, 3 feet, \$1.00 each, \$10.00 per dozen.



Jamesia americana

Crataegus coloradensis. Colorado Hawthorn. 12-15 feet. A full branched symmetrical tree with deeply veined foliage of heavy texture. The showy clusters of white flowers are followed by the dark scarlet fruit which contrasts richly with the foliage. In all respects one of the finest red-fruited haws in cultivation. 2-3 feet, 75 cents, \$7.50 per dozen.

Crataegus erythropoda. Chocolate Haw. 10-12 feet. A smaller tree, more shrub-like, foliage glossy, fruit chocolate-red. 3-4 feet, 75 cents, \$7.50 per dozen.

Crataegus rivularis. Brook Hawthorn. 12-15 feet. A distinctly western type with black fruit. The most symmetrical of all in habit, it is particularly attractive for its glossy leathery foliage, white flower umbels, and shining black fruit. Extra fine stock, 4-6 feet, \$1.00 each, \$10.00 per dozen.

Forestiera neomexicana. Mountain Privet. 8-10 feet. A shrub related to *Ligustrum*, from the high mountain valleys of New Mexico and Colorado. Of narrow upright habit, twiggy growth, the leaves small and dark green, berries black. It seems to qualify perfectly as a hedge plant, because of its style of growth, very easy culture and particularly for its extreme hardiness; moreover, it is quite ornamental as a specimen shrub. 4-5 feet, \$1.00 each. 2-year seedlings, ready next fall, \$15.00 per hundred.

Holodiscus microphyllus. Mountain Spray. 3-5 feet. (M) A small shrub of the *Spiraea* group growing on dry hillsides. Charming for the rockery or well drained border. The creamy-white sprays last a long time. 75 cents each.

Jamesia americana. Wild Mockorange. 3-5 feet. (M) A handsome shrub for well drained border or rockery in full sun; at the same time should have a soil rich in humus and a fair supply of moisture. When well grown, the velvety foliage and clusters of waxy-white fragrant blossoms are unrivaled among hardy shrubs. Small transplanted clumps \$1.00 each.

Juniperus scopulorum. Colorado Silver Juniper. In Colorado, the home of the Blue Spruce, this splendid Juniper outrivals the latter in its popularity as a decorative evergreen. It comes from the higher foothills of the northern half of the state. Although new to most growers outside of Colorado, it has proved itself hardy and easily grown, and its friends predict that it will stand near the head among upright Junipers.

Of formal, compact, upright habit, it is particularly pleasing for the feathery texture and silvery blue luster of its foliage.

The freshness of its foliage does not soon deteriorate, and it holds its lower branches and symmetrical form to a greater age than the Virginia types. I offer superior specimen stock, several times transplanted, dug with ball and burlapped, and securely crated for shipment at the following prices. 3-4 feet, \$8.50 each, \$15.00 per pair; 4-5 feet, \$11.00 each, \$20.00 per pair. The weight of a pair crated will average 75 to 100 pounds, transportation to be paid by purchaser.

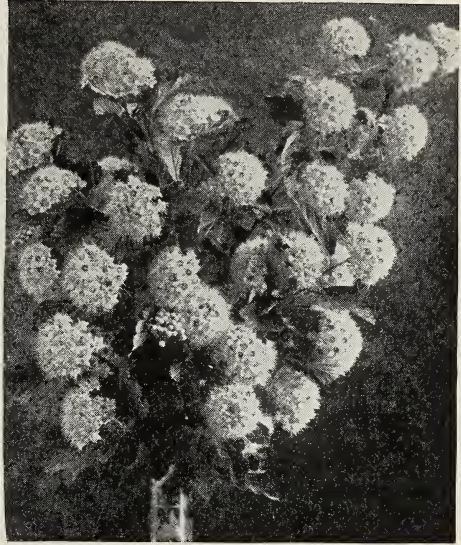
Ligustrum vulgare leucocarpum. Yellowberry Privet. An interesting albino of the common privet with pale green foliage. Strong bushes, 75 cents.

Lonicera involucrata. Bearberry Honey-suckle. 3-5 feet. A low compact bush with luxuriant foliage and yellow flowers, followed by black berries in pairs, enclosed in purple involucres. 2-3 feet, 75 cents, \$7.50 per dozen.

Lonicera spinosa alberti. Very graceful shrub with slender procumbent branches, making a good cover for dry banks. Foliage inclined to be evergreen, flowers rosy pink, very fragrant. From Turkestan. Strong clumps, 75 cents each.

Lycium pallidum. Pale Box-thorn. 3-4 feet. From dry hills of southern Colorado, a much-branched spiny shrub of erect habit. Notable for the large size of its pale green flowers and orange-red fruits, and for the fact that it produces no suckers from the root. A dry position is conducive to fruit production. Strong bushes, \$1.50 each.

Physocarpus bracteatus. (Opulaster) Twinpod Ninebark. 4-6 feet. The deeply lobed foliage suggests its relation to the spiraeas and it is at all times attractive. The flowering



Physocarpus ramaleyi

habit is very profuse, the heavy umbels of white flowers bending the branches with their weight of bloom. 3-4 feet, \$1.00 each.

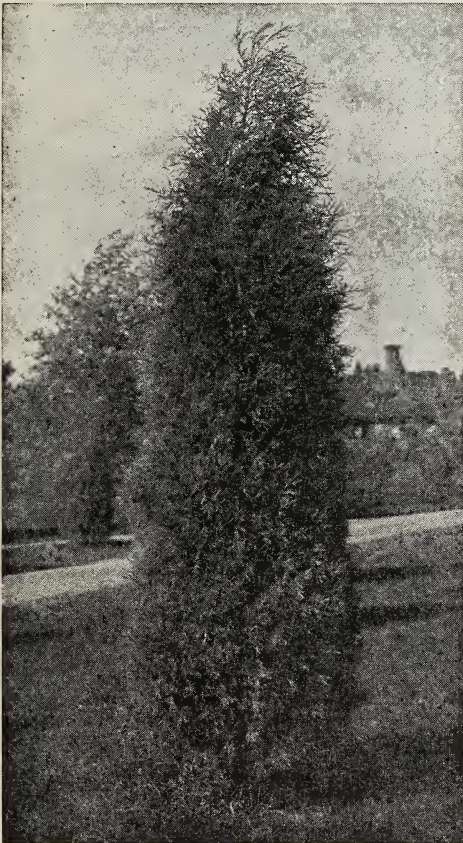
Physocarpus ramaleyi. Ramaley Ninebark. 6-8 feet. Of robust but rather compact habit, the foliage of firm texture retaining its freshness until painted by autumn frosts. Its profusion of bloom is unequalled and the inflated carpels become beautifully tinted as they ripen. 4-5 feet, \$1.00 each.

Populus andrewsi. Andrews Poplar. Tree of large size, a supposed hybrid of *P. sargentii* x *accuminata*. Named for the owner of Rockmont Nursery by Professor Sargent. In the climate of Colorado it has the most rapid growth of any tree known. It is cottonless, and grows uniformly into a well rounded head neither too spreading nor too narrow. 1-year 75 cents, \$7.50 per dozen.

Prunus besseyi. Bessey Sandcherry. 3-4 feet. A low bush with spreading branches and dark glossy foliage, suitable for the border of shrubberies. Fruit black, large, edible but astringent. 2-3 feet, 50 cents, \$5.00 per dozen.

Prunus melanocarpa. Western Chokecherry. 8-12 feet. Fragrant white flowers in drooping racemes, fruit black, astringent, attracts birds; foliage thick, dark green, pale underneath. 3-4 feet, 75 cents, \$7.50 per dozen.

Prunus sargentii. Flowering Cherry. Tree with large rose-pink single flowers. 3-4 feet, \$1.00 each.



Juniperus scopulorum



Rhus trilobata, on a Dry Hillside.

***Quercus gambelli*.** Colorado Oak. 10-15 feet. The most abundant oak of the eastern foothill region, variable in foliage, the leaves deeply lobed, often to the midrib. Tolerant of desert conditions, it responds with a more rapid and larger growth under more liberal treatment; a long-lived shrub of great value. 3-4 feet, \$1.00 each, \$10.00 per dozen.

***Quercus prinoides*.** Chinkapin Oak. 4-6 feet. A little known eastern species with chestnut-like foliage and bushy habit, often bearing acorns when only a foot or two tall; a gem among hardy shrubs. 3-4 feet, bushy plants, \$1.00 each, \$10.00 per dozen.

***Rhus cismontana flavescens*.** Yellow-fruited Sumac. 4-6 feet. A remarkable albino form of the western sumac with pale yellow fruit deepening to russet. The foliage is light green and turns yellow in autumn. Both in fruit and foliage it will make a pleasing contrast with other sumacs. 3-4 feet, 75 cents, \$7.50 per dozen.

***Rhus quercifolia*.** Oak-leaf Sumac. 3-4 feet. A rare shrub from Oklahoma of the three-leaved group, having lobed leaflets and bristly-hispid red fruit. 2-3 feet, \$1.00 each.

***Rhus trilobata*.** Three-leaved Sumac. 3-5 feet. A dwarf spreading diffusely branching bush, the leaves trifoliate, of smooth thick texture, dark green. The fruit in clusters is bright scarlet, ripens in early summer and makes a vivid contrast with the foliage. Healthy, hardy and easily grown. 2-3 feet, 75 cents, \$7.50 per dozen.

***Ribes leptanthum*.** Gleneyre Gooseberry. 4-6 feet. Of compact symmetrical upright habit with dark glossy foliage and small white flowers. By far the most ornamental shrub of the gooseberry family. 3-4 feet, \$1.00 each.

***Robinia neomexicana luxurians*.** Western Locust. 12-20 feet. The Colorado variety is thus distinguished from the more southern type. Unsurpassed among flowering trees for the abundance, fragrance and charm of the pink flower clusters in early summer. 4-6 feet, \$1.00 each, \$10.00 per dozen.

***Rosa lucida alba*.** Single white blossoms, green stems, foliage turning yellow in autumn; not new, but always scarce. 75 cents.

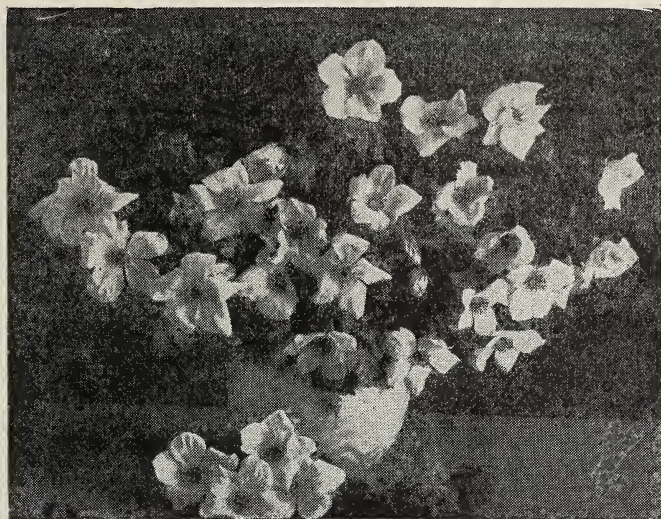
***Rosa stellata*.** Desert Rose. 2-3 feet. (D) Known only from a single mountain range in New Mexico. Its general appearance is unique; branching profusely the slender spiny twigs are coated with a whitish felt of stellate hairs. The foliage is dark green, composed of three to five very small leaflets. The flowers, between tyrian rose and aster purple, are comparatively large, nearly everblooming, one or more at the tip of every twig, followed by rough-spiny burrs of purplish color. The late Dr. W. van Fleet wrote of this rose, "They grow well and are surprisingly hardy. They bloom freely throughout a long season." Should have a medium dry position. Field-grown plants, \$1.00 each, \$10.00 per dozen.

Rubus deliciosus. Rocky Mountain Bramble. 4-6 feet. Noteworthy for its profusion of bloom and for the absence of thorns or prickles. It forms handsome bushy clumps with prettily lobed foliage, and in June bears fragrant snow-white flowers as large as single roses and like them in form. A reliable and satisfactory shrub. 3-4 feet, 75 cents, \$7.50 per dozen.

Salix brachycarpa. Rollins Willow. 2 feet. A fully acclimated alpine willow, collected many years ago near timberline on Rollins Pass. A very dwarf and highly ornamental shrub for rockeries or edgings, with a silver-gray foliage and yellow twigs. A thrifty but slow grower, and a gem among miniature shrubs. Small clumps, 75 cents each, \$7.50 per dozen.

Salix glaucops. Arctic Willow. Quite similar to the last but larger and faster growing. Small clumps, \$1.00 each.

Shepherdia argentea. Buffaloberry. 6-8 feet. A tall hardy shrub withstanding extremes of cold and drought. Its silver-gray foliage is excellent for contrast. The scarlet



Rubus deliciosus

berries are borne in clusters on the female plants, and should be grouped to be sure of fruit. Small bushes, 75 cents, \$7.50 per dozen.

Viburnum americanum. American Cranberrybush. This native species from Minnesota succeeds better here and has more and larger berries than the European species. 3-4 feet, \$1.00 each, \$10.00 per dozen.

Vitis vulpina. Wild grape. Used for covering fences or out-buildings with a screen of luxuriant foliage. 2-3 feet, 50 cents.



Oenothera caespitosa



Aquilegia coerulea, Rocky Mountain Columbine.

New or Noteworthy Flowers

The quiet simplicity of wild flowers often makes its appeal after one tires of the more garish garden effects where masses of color are the evident aim. Very many of our hardy flowers whose years of cultivation have left them unchanged partake of the same charm of primitive simplicity.

The appreciation of native plants does not seem to me to preclude a proper enjoyment of any other phase of gardening; but there is a distinct movement toward the conventional uses of native material, represented by rock-gardening, wall-gardening and the cultivation of alpine and other mountain plants.

In addition, therefore, to plants of simplest culture requirements, I shall include from time to time in my catalogue, flowers of more varied requirements. In the following list the references to culture notes are indicated as follows: (A) Alpine; (S) Subalpine; (M) Montanic; (D) Desert. Where no reference is given, ordinary garden treatment is suggested. Three plants of one kind will be sold at the dozen rate. The following can be supplied either spring or autumn.

***Anemone patens nuttalliana*.** American Pasqueflower. (M) Silky buds expand with the first days of spring, into flowers of pale lilac, as large as *Crocus*. No other flower of Easter time is more beautiful. 25 cents each, 3 for 50 cents, \$2.00 per dozen.

***Aquilegia coerulea*.** Rocky Mountain Columbine. (M) A marvel among Columbines, four-inch blossoms of blue and white with long slender spurs. Large size and purity of color are assured by planting our true native stock. Extra heavy roots 35 cents, \$3.50 per dozen; flowering size, 25 cents, \$2.00 per dozen; thrifty seedlings, \$6.00 per 100.

***Aspidium filixmas*,** see *Dryopteris*.

***Besseyia plantaginea*.** Kittentails. (M) A rosette of broad oval leaves with several silky spikes of pale bluish flowers in early spring. An attractive rockplant of easy culture. Small clumps, 50 cents, \$4.00 per dozen.

***Caltha rotundifolia*.** White Marshmarigold. (S) The 2-inch white flowers appear in early spring among the rounded basal leaves of dark green. At home in boggy meadows, it will thrive in half-shade if well supplied with moisture during the growing season. Flowering clumps, 50 cents, \$4.00 per dozen.

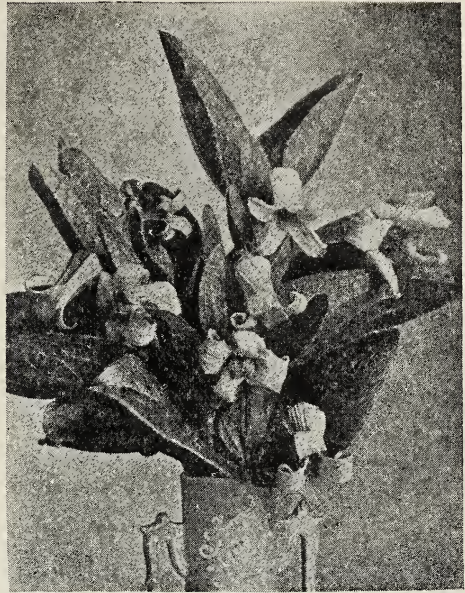
***Centaurea rigidifolia*.** A rare form of *C. orientalis* with crimson flower heads blooming nearly all summer on stems 3 feet tall. A fine plant lacking the coarseness of some species. 35 cents, \$3.00 per dozen.

***Clematis crispa*.** Curly Clematis. Herbaceous vine from Texas, similar to *C. texensis*, except that the flowers are deep purple; strong clumps, 50 cents.

***Clematis fremonti*.** Fremont Clematis. Low bush, a foot tall, with broad leathery foliage and bell-shaped flowers of lavender or lilac; a rare species from western Kansas. Strong clumps, 75 cents.

***Clematis scotti*.** Scott Clematis. (M) Erect perennial with pale glaucous pinnate foliage, forming clumps 18 inches tall. The bell-shaped flowers are of very thick substance, the tips only slightly spreading, the outside color dark soft bluish violet, the inside much darker. This rare Colorado species has the largest and most beautiful flowers of any of the bell-flowered or Viorna group. Strong roots \$1.00 each.

***Clematis texensis*.** (*C. coccinea*) Scarlet Clematis. Hardy herbaceous vine from Texas, with scarlet bell-shaped flowers from June to October, followed by golden seed plumes. Grows up quickly to a height of 10 or 12 feet and thrives for many years. Heavy flowering roots 50 cents, \$5.00 per dozen.



Clematis fremonti



Dryopteris felixmas, Colorado Male Fern

Convallaria majalis. Parsons' Variety. Lily-of-the-valley. A stout rowing garden type, originally from Sweden; large bells on long stems, followed by showy scarlet fruit. Clumps 50 cents, \$4.00 per dozen.

Dryopteris flixmas. Colorado Male-fern. (M) A vigorous fern with large bi-pinnate fronds of very firm texture, remaining green through December. A valuable all-purpose fern. Strong roots 30 cents, \$3.00 per dozen.



Echinocactus simpsoni

Echinocactus simpsoni. Pincushion Cactus. (D) Commonly two or three inches in diameter, the plant is entirely covered with a closely woven lacework of curved spines varying from dark purple-brown to gray. The flowers which appear in early spring are shell-pink. Indifferent to dry cold, but require good drainage if wintered outside. Flowering sizes 25 cents, \$2.50 per dozen; assorted sizes, \$1.50 per dozen.

Echinocereus viridiflorus. Rainbow Cactus. (D) Semicylindrical, an inch or two in diameter, interlaced with varicolored spines. A variable species; occasional individuals will have stout spines projecting from the center of each rosette. Very beautiful and hardy, flowers yellow, tinged green. Flowering plants and small clusters 25 cents, \$2.00 per dozen; assorted sizes \$1.00 per dozen, \$7.50 per hundred.

Eryngium yuccaefolium. Button-snake-root. A stout perennial of sub-tropical aspect with firm yucca-like foliage and prickly flower heads on tall stems. 30 cents, \$3.00 per dozen.

Geranium pratense. Cranesbill. A stout floriferous perennial of compact bushy habit, the flowers violet-blue of quite large size. 25 cents, \$2.00 per dozen.

Geranium pratense album. White Cranesbill. A pure white variety of same habit. 25 cents, \$2.00 per dozen.

Helianthella quinquenervis. Sunwort. An early-flowering Composite with tall slender stems and large yellow-rayed flowers. 25 cents, \$2.00 per dozen.

Iris missouriensis. The native iris or flag of meadows and mountain valleys, usually wet till after the flowering season in May, later becoming very dry. A foot tall, forming large clumps, the lavender or pale blue flowers comparatively large and showy. 25 cents, \$2.00 per dozen.

Iris missouriensis Bluebird. Similar to the type, but flowers Bradley's violet, falls veined lighter. \$1.00 each.

Iris missouriensis Snowbird. Pure white without veining. \$2.00 each.

Leucocrinum montanum. Sandlily or Starlily. (D) Very early spring flower of crystal-white, the size of crocus, from a rosette of narrow foliage. One clump will often bear fifty blooms in one season. Hardy and successful east. Can be furnished in spring, but autumn planting is recommended. Strong blooming clumps 40 cents, \$4.00 per dozen.

Liatris ligulistylis. Rocky Mountain Gayfeather. A dwarf early species with very large showy heads of rosy purple. 35 cents, 3 for \$1.00.

Liatris punctata. Dotted Gayfeather. (C) Suitable for the dry rockery, several slender spikes less than a foot tall. 25 cents, \$2.00 per dozen.

Lithospermum multiflorum. Gromwell. A low bushy perennial, related to Mertensia, and has paniculate sprays of golden yellow bells in wonderful profusion. Grows on dry slopes and should have a well drained sunny position. 30 cents, \$3.00 per dozen.



Leucocrinum montanum

Mertensia ciliata. Mountain Bluebells. A luxuriant plant of graceful habit with fine glaucous foliage, the drooping sprays of pale blue flowers continue in bloom for a long period. Flowering roots 30 cents, \$3.00 per dozen.

Mertensia pratensis. A rare plant from the Spanish Peaks, with green foliage and blue flowers. 50 cents, \$4.00 per dozen.

Oenothera brachycarpa. Yellow Evening primrose. (D) A tufted rockplant for a clay soil, the magnificent 4-inch blossoms just overtopping the foliage. Each rosette bears a succession of flowers but should be planted in colonies for best effect. 25 cents, \$2.00 per dozen.

Oenothera caespitosa. Tufted Evening-primrose. A rockplant for sandy loam, quite similar in habit to *O. brachycarpa*, but flowers white, aging to rose. 25 cents, \$2.00 per dozen.

Primula parryi. Parry Primrose. (S) A subalpine growing at the edge of cold mountain brooks. A plant which compels attention for its vivid yellow-eyed crimson flowers, luxuriant growth and rich perfume. Requires an abundance of moisture and shelter from hot sun. Small clumps 50 cents, \$5.00 per dozen.

Salvia azurea. Azure Sage. If limited to one blue flower, it would be the *Salvia* in its several shades of blue. It never fails, thrives almost without care, is true blue and has a long season of bloom. Excessive moisture and fertility are to be avoided, as a rank growth results in lippy stems and inferior bloom. 25 cents, \$2.50 per dozen.

Salvia pitcheri. Dark-azure Sage. Later blooming and much darker blue, but otherwise identical with *S. azurea*. The stems grow 3 feet tall and are well adapted for cutting.



Primula parryi

Try growing both *Salvias* in a rather dry position. 25 cents, \$2.50 per dozen.

Sidalcea candida. Indian Mallow. Tall racemes of 1-inch white flowers, forming effective clumps well furnished with foliage. 25 cents, \$2.00 per dozen.

Trollius albiflorus. White Globeflower. (S) A desirable subalpine for a moist peaty soil in partial shade. It blooms early, the flowers quite large, sulfur, fading to pure white. Clumps with several flowering crowns, 75 cents each.

Valeriana acutiloba. Valerian. (A) A very charming alpine or rockplant which will thrive under ordinary garden conditions. Forms a nearly evergreen leafy tuft, producing a succession of flowering stems from very early spring till June, and often in autumn. The small white flowers are disposed in rather close heads and the plant resembles a miniature Garden-heliotrope. A rigidly tested novelty of exceptional worth. Established clumps that will bloom first season, 75 cents each, 3 for \$2.00.

Yucca accata. Agave-leaved Yucca or Datil. (D) Foliage broad and thick, with coarse marginal filaments. Best for a dry rockery. The hardy Colorado type. Strong transplanted, 50 cents, \$5.00 per dozen.

Yucca glauca. Soaproot Yucca. (D) Long stiff narrow evergreen foliage; flowers white or purplish. 1-year seedlings 3 for 25 cents, \$1.00 per dozen.



Liatris ligulistylis

Four New Peonies and an Iris

Last fall, 1923, I selected four of my seedling peonies and offered them to members of the American Peony Society under the following names: Hesperus, Manitou, Nimbus and Snow Rim.

Because of the fact that the name Hesperus was already in use, this seedling was renamed Hesperanola. All that I had to spare last fall were sold, but I shall have a limited number to offer again next fall, about October 1st, and orders will be filled in rotation as received for the few sets available. You may give me your order now, but send no money until I notify you that they are ready for delivery. Peony seeds, offered in another section, may be ordered for delivery at the same time. Price for the set of four peonies described below, \$60.00, delivered in the United States to postoffice or express office. Any one variety at the price listed. Other new peonies will be offered from time to time.

Hesperanola. (09-70) Deep uniform shell-pink (Pale Amaranth Pink) shaded deeper; very large full rose-type; free bloomer in clusters on strong stem. Blooms with Marie Lemoine or later. A magnificent flower which opens gradually but freely, building up a perfect center with no stamens. \$10.00 each.

Manitou. A full rose-type which develops slowly a very high center nearly as broad as the guards, the latter reflexing, producing a large flower of great depth. Color Cameo-pink, bleaching slowly to blush-white; exquisite rose fragrance. Stem very long, of medium height, profuse and regular bloomer; a row of established plants is a mass of bloom. \$10.00.

Nimbus. (09-103) Rose or bomb-rose type; a large, very full flower of durable texture. Opens slowly but freely, with no stamens nor carpels. Color white, with the center deepening to palest blush-buff. Good strong erect habit, free bloomer with few laterals. Late to very late, tall, with strong stems which support the heavy flowers. \$25.00.

Snow Rim. (09-35) A flower of peculiar charm, pure paper-white, three or four rows of broad petals and a center of yellow stamens and carmine-red stigmas. Slightly incurved, the perfection of form and charming color effect are unequalled. Late mid-season, a profuse bloomer, strong, mostly one-flowered stems of medium height and ideal habit. \$20.00.

Tall Bearded Iris, Odaroloc

(Anagram of Colorado)

Odaroloc. (No. 65) Seedling of a tall white plicata, fertilized from another white seedling. Although resembling a pallida, it has directly no pallida nor Caterina inheritance. Height 46 inches, pure self color, light mauve to lobelia-violet. Both standards and falls measure $2\frac{1}{2}$ inches wide and $3\frac{1}{2}$ inches long. The 8 or 9 enormous flowers are borne on very strong erect stems well above the 30-inch

glaucus foliage. The lower branches are rather long, carrying the flowers high without crowding. The flower is well arched, symmetrical, with flaring falls, good heavy substance, orange beard. Growth exceptionally vigorous forming well balanced clumps and a good multiplier. Strong single roots ready for spring delivery, \$10.00 each, prepaid.

Other Catalogues from Rockmont Nursery

Mailed free upon request

General Catalogue of trees, shrubs, evergreens and hardy flowers. This catalogue is prepared and the stock selected for Colorado and the adjacent Mountain and Plains region. I do not wish to extend its circulation beyond the territory described. Ready February 15th.

Autumn Catalogue of peonies, iris, phlox, etc., offering the standard varieties and some of the recent introductions. Ready September 1st.

Address,

D. M. Andrews, P. O. Box 493, Boulder, Colorado

Seeds of New or Noteworthy Plants

Prompt Delivery. You can assist in prompt delivery if you will send me your seed order early, before April first if possible. I prefer to have seed orders on a sheet separate from your plant order. Late orders should include a few items of second choice. I am glad to comply with frequent requests for seeds for summer or fall planting.

Non-warranty. This list includes seeds of my own saving only, and I believe them to be of sound quality and otherwise as represented. In supplying this stock, I take it for granted the buyer will not require any additional warranty nor any replacement in case of failure. Errors will be rectified if re-reported promptly.

Remittances. Kindly send cash with order. I do not intend to open charge accounts for seeds and can only undertake to do so as an accommodation.

Culture. See last paragraph under **Culture of Alpines, etc.**

Price of Seeds. The price per packet, sufficient for the ordinary garden, is quoted under each item. The number of seeds in a packet will vary according to the size of the grains, rarity, etc. The prices include delivery prepaid to any postoffice in the United States.

(A) Alpine, (M) Montanic, etc., see Culture.

Descriptive List of Seeds

Aquilegia coerulea. Rocky Mountain Columbine. (M) For description, see plants. Our seed is grown far away from hybrids or garden sorts and is the true mountain stock. If you will keep up a succession of young flowering plants by planting fresh seed of this strain each season, you will appreciate this fine Columbine as never before. Packet 25 cents; $\frac{1}{4}$ ounce, \$1.00.

Aquilegia Hybrids, Rainbow Mixture. These are superb long-spurred hybrids, the result of crossing and recrossing between the four species, *A. coerulea*, *chrysantha*, *skinneri* and *truncata*. My Rainbow Mixture is blended from the clearest colors saved separately, which results in avoiding a surplus of yellow or washed tints. These with their sturdy erect habit, large size of flower and freedom of bloom, exemplify the superlative attainment in Columbines. Packet 25 cents; 1000 seeds, \$1.00.

Anemone globosa. Red Anemone. (A) One-inch deep red flowers on stems a foot tall, from a rosette of silky foliage. 25 cents.

Campanula rotundifolia. Harebell. (M) A delightful rockplant with slender sprays of azure blue flowers. 25 cents.

Clematis columbiana. Western Rock Clematis. (M) Low-trailing woody vine with 4-inch blue or lavender flowers in early spring. 25 cents.

Clematis texensis. (*C. coccinea*) Scarlet Clematis. Hardy herbaceous vine producing its scarlet bells all summer. 15 cents; $\frac{1}{2}$ ounce \$1.00.

Clematis Crispa. Curly C. Herbaceous vine with lavender bells all summer. 15 cents.

Clematis integrifolia. Bushy perennial with 3-inch blue flowers nearly all summer. 15 cents.

Clematis ligusticifolia. Western Virgins-bower. A rapid woody climber, easily grown, with white flower clusters and fluffy seed plumes. 15 cents.

Clematis orientalis. Yellow Clematis. Woody vine with showy yellow flowers all summer. 25 cents.

Clematis recta grandiflora. Two feet tall, easily grown, similar to the ordinary *C. recta*, except that the flowers are more than twice as large; a profuse bloomer nearly all summer. 50 cents.

Note. Most Clematis seeds germinate in from one to three weeks, but *crispa* and *texensis* remain dormant one whole season after planting.

Colorado Wild Flower Collection. See "Garden Magazine Collection" at the end of this section.

Delphinium Hybrids. Queen Wilhelmina strain. The semi-tall habit and compact inflorescence of the variety Queen Wilhelmina have been taken as the ideal in building up this strain; extremely tall types have been eliminated. My seedlings now maintain quite uniformly this medium and stocky habit and exhibit a maximum range of colors including light, bright and deep blue with rare rose and plum tints. A liberal percent will come double, among which bicolored flowers are frequent. This strain is the ideal type for cutting and stands up well in the garden. Packet, 25 cents; $\frac{1}{4}$ cunce, \$2.00; ounce, \$7.50.

Gaillardia grandiflora hybrids. The original species is a native of the mountains and prairies of Colorado; seed saved from a superb collection of large flowers in brilliant colors. 25 cents.

Gentiana andrewsi. Closed Gentian. Moist stream banks; very showy bud-like blossoms in clusters; this Colorado type has larger, lighter blue flowers than the eastern, and blooms earlier. 25 cents; 2,000 seeds, \$1.00.

Gilia pulchella. Skyrocket. (M) A biennial for a warm sunny position, sandy or gravelly soil. 3 feet tall, the flowers tubular, with a star-like limb, fiery scarlet, arranged in a narrow panicle; July and August. The gayest member of the Phlox family. 50 cents.

Gillenia trifoliata. Bowmansroot. A Spiraea type of plant 3 feet tall with neat foliage and sprays of white flowers. 15 cents.

Helenium hoopesi. Orange or Rabbitear Daisy. Differs from other Heleniums in its dwarf stocky habit and earlier season of bloom. A choice border plant with large orange-yellow flowers valuable for cutting. 15 cents; 1000 seeds, 75 cents.

Helianthella parryi. Sunwort. (M) A charming little rockplant with showy yellow-rayed flowers on stems a foot tall; early summer. 25 cents.

Helianthella quinquenervis. Sunwort 4-inch star-like flowers on stems 3 feet tall; early summer. 25 cents.

Helianthus, Hybrid Red Sunflower. Developed from the wild sunflower of Colorado by Professor and Mrs. Cockerell of the State University. A chance wilding with red markings was subjected to a systematic course of breeding and selection for a period of several years and the marvelous results read like a fairy tale. First, a "Red and Gold" variety was perfected, the pattern being a zone of rich chestnut-red on a golden-yellow ground, as in Gaillardia. Next, this was crossed upon a primrose garden variety, resulting in a quite distinct "Old-rose and Primrose" type in a similar pattern. Often the zone completely hides the lighter ground,

the effect being exceedingly rich. From the primrose variety comes an "Albino" or near-white, which is very striking among the dark colors.

These hybrids are annual, grow quickly to a height of six feet and bear profusely the five- to seven-inch flowers. The seedlings which show the most color in the first leaves will produce the darkest colored flowers; also, the colors show best intensity if the plants are grown in a rather dry situation. Plant and tend as for sweet corn. Sold in separate packets, "Red and Gold," "Old-rose and Primrose," and "Albino;" 100 seeds, 25 cents; one packet of each for 60 cents; 1000 seeds, either variety, \$1.25.

Ipomoea leptophylla. Bush Morning-glory. A profusely branching bush with narrow foliage and long terminal racemes of rose-purple flowers for several weeks. Recommended for a dry bank or slope in mellow soil, as the root attains mammoth size, weighing fifty to 100 pounds. Soak or file the seeds, planting several together where the plant is to remain, or in pots to be planted out later. 25 cents.

Iris Missouriensis. Mixed colors. Saved from the common wild form and from my named varieties, Bluebird and Snowbird. Usually germinates second spring after planting. 25 cents.

Iris hybrids, Tall Bearded. (New crop to be delivered when ripe in early autumn.) These are from superb named varieties and from the best of my own seedlings. I believe that nothing finer has been offered. One customer who bought this same grade writes, "My Hybrid Irises are a surprise of great joy." Plant in the fall and they will come up in the spring and quickly make flowering plants. Large packet 50 cents; ounce packet, \$1.00.

Lathyrus rotundifolius. Persian everlasting Pea. A rare Oriental species, hardy, a vigorous climber to 4 feet tall, and a very profuse bloomer. Noteworthy for its unique color, which is red with an orange tone. Packet, 50 cents.

Liatris ligulistylis. Rocky Mountain Gayfeather. A sturdy dwarf species—1½ feet tall, with very large showy heads of rosy purple. 25 cents; 1000 seeds, \$1.00.

Mertensia pratensis. Bluebells. See plants for description. 25 cents.

Mirabilis multiflorus. Desert Four-o'clock. (D) One of the most attractively beautiful plants of the desert, low-spreading, forming clumps a foot or two broad. The large rosy flower trumpets cover the plant for weeks. Culture, same as for Bush Morning-glory, having a similar large root. Packet—50 cents.



Oxytropis

Opuntia arborescens. Walkingstick Cactus. (D) An upright branching species growing four feet or more tall, with bright crimson-red flowers. Plant in the driest part of the rock garden. Packet, 15 cents; 1000 seeds 75 cents.

Opuntia. Prickly Pear. (D) Low-growing varieties mixed. 25 cents.

Oxytropis splendens. Splendid Loco. (M) A charming rockplant for a not too dry sunny position. Silvery foliage with spikes of rosy, pea-shaped flowers. 15 cents.

Pentstemon alpinus. A rockplant for sunny exposure. Flowers deep blue, in compact racemes a foot tall. Pentstemons will not thrive long in a cold heavy soil. 15 cents.

Pentstemon coeruleus. (D) Dwarf, with showy sky-blue flowers in May. 15 cents.

Pentstemon torreyi. Scarlet P. This Colorado mountain form is distinct from the one ordinarily grown; being dwarfer, earlier and more brilliant in color. Best as a rockplant or well drained sunny position. 15 cents; 1000 seeds 75 cents.

Phlox paniculata. Select garden hybrids. Saved from a choice collection of named varieties, including some of my own brilliant red seedlings. 25 cents per packet.

Peony, Superb Double. All saved from choice double named varieties which will give a wide range of color, with a good proportion of double blooms. The seeds, which lie dormant one season, should be planted in thin rows an inch deep. Mulch with excelsior which should be removed just before they begin to germinate. 100 seeds, 75 cents; 1000 seeds, \$5.00

Japanese Peonies. Their present popularity is well merited. The seeds are saved from the best Japanese types, 50 seeds, 75 cents; 500 seeds, \$5.00.

Polemonium mellitum. (M) One of the neatest of mountain flowers, growing in tufts on shaded rocky slopes. Showy straw-white flowers in clusters, honey-scented; easily grown from seed. 25 cents.

Polemonium molle. (M) A showy, free blooming species from the mountains of southern Colorado, clumps a foot tall, flowers blue. 25 cents.

Polemonium robustum. (M) The largest native Polemonium, two feet tall, with blue flowers in ample panicles for a long season. 15 cents.

Pyrethrum roseum hybrids. As the finest varieties seed freely in this climate I am able to offer seeds saved from both double and single flowers with the belief that no finer strain is obtainable. Packet 25 cents; 1000 seeds \$1.00.

Salvia azurea. Blue Sage. (D) Described under plants. Although this plant will thrive everywhere, it will give best results in a dry sunny position. Seeds sown early will bloom the same season. 15 cents; 1000 seeds 75 cents.

Saxifraga austromontana. A) Delicate carpet-forming alpine with star-like rosettes and sprays of white flowers on slender scapes. 25 cents.

Sidalcea candida. Indian Mallow. Tall racemes of 1-inch white flowers, from bold clumps of foliage; blooms nearly all summer. 15 cents.

Sidalcea oregana. Oregon Mallow. This far western type is taller and produces its mauve-rose flowers nearly all summer. 15 cents.

Silphium laciniatum. Compassplant. A magnificent perennial of the middle west, with large lacinate leaves, the edges of which are inclined to stand north and south; flower spikes six feet tall. 25 cents.

Silphium terebinthaceum. Prairie-dock. Large, entire foliage and slender stems six feet tall, with yellow flowers. 25 cents.

Red Sunflower. See *Helianthus*.

Thermopsis montana. Buffalo-pea. Bright yellow pea blossoms in upright racemes, early and fragrant. In general habit resembling *Lupine*. 15 cents.

Townsendia grandiflora, violet. (D) Low tufted perennial for sunny rockery; large daisy-like flowers of bright violet-blue, for a long period. 25 cents.

Townsendia grandiflora, white. (D) The white flowered form is more common, and requires the same culture. 15 cents.

Veratrum tenuipetalum. False-hellebore. (S) Luxuriant liliaceous plant for moist place; feathery white panicles. 25 cents.

Wyethia amplexicaulis. Mule-ears. (M) An early-flowering composite with large pointed leaves and coreopsis-like flowers on 2-foot stems. 15 cents.

Yucca glauca. Soapwort *Yucca*. (D) Narrow glaucous stiff foliage and stout flower spikes. Thrives best in a dry soil. 15 cents.

Garden Magazine Collection

This collection has been selected especially as an introductory offering to readers of the **Garden Magazine** who answered my advertisement in the January and February issues. Anyone else may order this collection at the same price. No change or substitution can be permitted—except that I reserve the right to substitute other kinds of equal value for items which may be sold out before the end of the season. For descriptions see general list just preceding. One full sized packet of each of the following ten kinds, sent prepaid for \$1.00. Single packets 15 cents each.

Helenium hoopesi
Opuntia arborescens
Oxytropis splendens
Pentstemon torreyi
Polemonium robustum
Salvia azurea
Sidalcea candida
Thermopsis montana
Wyethia amplexicaulis
Yucca glauca

When ordering, ask for "Garden Magazine Collection, \$1.00."

A Few Choice Alpines, Rare Shrubs, Etc.

For Delivery Autumn 1924

As suggested in my culture notes, a successful way to handle alpine is to collect and plant the clumps or turfs in early autumn. I shall be pleased to undertake the collection next fall, of a few choice species, the orders to be placed in advance, not later than August 15th. I prefer to have your order now. Payment will not be required until I notify you that the plants are ready for delivery, near the end of September.

In addition to the following list, nearly all the plants and seeds of this catalogue can be supplied in autumn. The amount paid for "sold out" items will be refunded. (A), Alpine; (M), Montanic, etc.

Aconitum columbianum, Mountain Aconite. (A) Tall slender spikes of showy blue flowers in early summer; easily grown. Single roots, four for \$1.00, 12 for \$2.50.

Aconitum flavescens. (A) Same as the last, except that the color of the flowers is creamy white. Four for \$1.00, 12 for \$2.50.

Bistorta bistortoides. Mountain Buckwheat. (A) Slender stems a foot or two tall,

with glossy green basal leaves and showy clusters of small white flowers in May. Will succeed in any good soil, full sun; plant 6 inches apart in colonies where other plants will not crowd. Single tubers, 4 for \$1.00; 12 for \$2.50.

Clematis eriophora. (Syn. *C. douglasii*) (M) Bushy species a foot tall with silky foliage and deep purple bell-shaped flowers in May. Alpine or montanic treatment. Strong clumps 75 cents, four for \$2.50.

Dodecatheon radicum. Shooting Star. (M) The characteristic dart-like blossoms of bright rose-pink are produced in umbels a foot above the foliage in April. Small turfs containing several flowering pips, 40 cents, \$3.50 per dozen.

Gentiana parryi. Perry's Blue Gentian. (A) Large showy flowers of deepest blue, clustered, on stems a foot or more tall; moist shaded position. Strong roots 50 cents, \$5.00 per dozen; clumps with ball of earth, \$1.00 each.

Gentiana bigelovi. Bigelow's Gentian. (M) Small blue flowers in clusters; dry north slopes. Strong roots 35 cents, \$3.00 per dozen; clumps with ball of earth 75 cents, four for \$2.50.

Geranium richardsoni. White Cranes-bill. (M) Easily grown, forming bushy clumps with neat foliage and showy white flowers in spring and early summer. 35 cents, \$3.00 per dozen.

Lewisia pygmaea. Least Bitter-root. (A) A small alpine with deep rose-pink flowers in a rosette of narrow foliage from a thick root. Four for \$1.00; per dozen, \$2.50.



Dodecatheon radicum

Primula angustifolia. Alpine Primrose. (A) A miniature species with fragrant star-like flowers of deep rose-pink, forming small clumps. Turfs containing several roots \$1.00 each; 7 for \$5.00.

Ranunculus adoneus. Arctic Buttercup. (A) Growing and blooming at the edge of snowbanks, the clusters of large yellow flowers are a sight never forgotten. Clumps with earth \$1.00 each; 7 for \$5.00

Sedum stenopetalum. Stonecrop. (M) Evergreen fleshy foliage and yellow or orange tinted star-shaped flowers in early spring; an attractive rock plant. Small clumps 35 cents, \$2.50 per dozen.

Veratrum tenuipetalum. False-hellebore. (S) A luxuriant liliaceous plant for moist position. Five feet tall, very large stem leaves and huge panicles of fleecy white flowers. Large roots, \$1.00 each, 3 for \$2.50.

The following are shrubs, ready in autumn, and are nursery-grown except *Dryas* and *Kalmia*, which are alpine.

Dryas octopetala. Mountain Avens. (A) A creeping evergreen shrub forming mats among rocks. The showy rosaceous flowers come in early spring and are followed by small feathery plumes. Turfs \$1.00 each, 7 for \$5.00.

Kalmia microphylla. Alpine laurel. (A) Low tufted evergreen, in spring covered with the clear pink blossoms. An exquisite plant growing in half-boggy places in the high mountains. Probably this will be difficult to establish, but it will flower beautifully in a cool greenhouse or window, if rested awhile in a cold cellar. Collected turfs, well set with buds, \$1.00 each, 7 for \$5.00.

Pachistima myrsinetes. Mountain myrtle. (M) A low spreading or trailing evergreen related to *Euonymus*, easily grown at the shady side of a wall. Entirely hardy, neat compact habit, color and texture of foliage very beautiful. Established 2-year clumps, ready in the fall, \$1.00 each; 6 for \$5.00.

Quercus undulatus. Mountain Live Oak. A large bushy shrub with holly-like foliage of bluish green. Although hardy north, it will there prove deciduous, while further south the leaves will remain green all winter. It is a highly ornamental species whether evergreen or not. Two-year transplants, ready in autumn, \$1.00 each, 6 for \$5.00.

Salix repens argentea. Silver Creeping Willow. A handsome trailer with silvery foliage. This and the next valuable dwarf Willows and may be used in connection with the two native species offered elsewhere. 2-year, ready in autumn, 75 cents.

Salix terapla. Tea Willow. A beautiful hybrid of very stocky habit and low growth. A very valuable small shrub for many purposes. 2-year, ready in autumn, \$1.00 each.

The Backside of the Desert

The Great American Desert, a title written across a portion of the Southwest in the older school geographies, has gradually yielded, like the Indian and the buffalo, to the insistent march of civilization. Although the length of its borders has diminished, if anyone attempts to assure you that there is no American desert, let the frontier settler, whose struggle has ended in despair, tell you of its relentless cruelty. For him it holds no romance; yet for the traveler who merely passes through it may offer a lure as insatiable as its thirst for moisture, and which ever leads one on and makes one wish to return.

The less forbidding portions of this wilderness have been reclaimed and made productive, either by irrigation or by skillful methods of tillage. Rich valley lands penetrate the area or extend through it. It centers approximately where the four states corner, namely, Colorado, Utah, Arizona and New Mexico. Some of the northern desert sections attribute their non-productivity as much to the short, cold seasons of the higher altitudes as to lack of moisture. Various physical deficiencies contribute to the difficulty of farther progress in reclamation.

The desert need not mean a waste of burning, shifting sands, nor a wilderness devoid of vegetation. The plants, though not abundant, are of peculiar interest; and like those of the high altitudes show the evidences of their long struggle for existence. It is a significant fact, that mountain plants and many desert plants are survivors of a more beneficent climate, rather than choosers of adversity. Fossil remains show that giant Sequoias once flourished in central Colorado. For horticultural exploration the colder latitudes of the desert lands and the mountain elevations extending southward, offer the richest possible field. Some of these natives of the desert have shown their ability to readapt themselves to a more liberal environment, and this promises successful domestication for others.

Heretofore difficult to penetrate, the desert territory has become more accessible because the motor car has greatly lengthened the radius of the day's journey. By this means the more venturesome homesteader has extended his advance to some sheltered oasis farther from his base of supplies.

Gradations in the amount of rainfall are influenced by the contours of the country, by prevailing winds, and particularly by mountains whose cool summits precipitate moisture and rob the adjacent outlands. Mountain streams are often swallowed up upon reaching the plain, but their narrow valleys have become the productive meadowlands of the rancher whose cattle roam the hill-sides in summer and are driven back for feed and shelter in winter.

Improved roads, it is true, lead across the desert but they serve the explorer only incidentally. One day last August near the borderland of Colorado and New Mexico, we had left main highways far behind, and upon asking the possibility of progress in a forward direction we were advised to return and proceed by the usual route. The information that we were not hunting good roads seemed to bewilder the native who reluctantly gave the required information.

One who is familiar with the Southwest can easily picture the slender, uneven trail winding in long curves through an undulating country of magnificent distances. Passing through a scanty growth of sagebrush, yucca and cactus,

we were always in sight of greener mesa lands whose borders seemed now and again to be washed by the illusive, shimmering mirage whose simulation of placid water was very real indeed.

At length, against a background of rugged peaks appeared the painted foothills upon whose slopes were friendly pines and juniper, broad mats of scrub oak and an undergrowth dotted with brilliant flowers. Through this, a break marked the entrance to a well-watered valley.

If in such a place, Moses of old tended the flocks of his father-in-law, Jethro, "at the backside of the desert," he may well have considered that his lines had fallen among pleasant places.

Following a beautiful mountain stream, the road passed several cozy ranch houses, the last one nestling under a huge rampart-like wall thrust across the narrowing canyon, through which was a gap only wide enough for stream and road. At the left were the twin Spanish Peaks, lofty volcanic cones, long since burned out and now cold and bleak. Catching a glimpse of the eternal snow peaks ahead, we passed through the gateway and entered the "Shut-in-Country," a nearly primitive wilderness. No longer under the influence of the desert, the roadsides were gay with flowers. The objective of our journey was at hand, and at nightfall the "Shut-in-Country" afforded us the most delightful camping spot of the entire trip. Fragrant pitch wood supplied warmth and cheer, for the night and morning were cool. Seeds and ripening foliage were reminders that the floral procession was well advanced, for autumn arrives early at these altitudes. We were surrounded by uplands and meadow, moist banks and dry hillsides, timberland and open spaces. Everywhere autumn flowers were expanding into a final riot of color.

This valley with its tributaries proved no exception to the usual rule of the mountain region; for besides the more commonplace flowers, everywhere abundant, were rare local types not found elsewhere. A mountain barrier is very effective in preventing the distribution of plants from one valley to another and for this reason the exploration of such territory is certain to yield new types which will eventually enrich our gardens.

We were able, by venturing over nearly impassible roads, to return by another route; and so ended the little journey to the backside of the desert.



A Bit of the Snow Country



Yucca Glauca

